



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 159**

*January Session, 2013*

House Bill No. 5264

*House of Representatives, March 26, 2013*

The Committee on General Law reported through REP. BARAM of the 15th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

## ***AN ACT REQUIRING REFUNDS FOR DAMAGED AND DEFECTIVE GOODS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2014*) Notwithstanding the  
2 provisions of chapter 735c of the general statutes, any person engaged  
3 in trade or commerce in this state shall accept returned goods and  
4 issue a full cash or credit refund to the person returning the goods,  
5 provided the goods are: (1) Damaged or not functioning properly at  
6 the time of purchase, and (2) returned not more than two business  
7 days after purchase.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>January 1, 2014</i>	New section
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**GL**      *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

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**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:** None

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

There is no fiscal impact to the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP) in requiring anyone who does business within the state to accept returned goods and issue a full cash or credit refund to the person returning the goods as the DCP currently acts upon related complaints and few additional complaints are anticipated due to the bill.

**The Out Years**

**State Impact:** None

**Municipal Impact:** None

**OLR Bill Analysis****HB 5264*****AN ACT REQUIRING REFUNDS FOR DAMAGED AND DEFECTIVE GOODS.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires anyone who does business within the state to accept returned goods and issue a full cash or credit refund to the person returning the goods. These goods must be (1) damaged or not functioning properly at the time of purchase and (2) returned within two business days after purchase. The bill does not establish a penalty for violations.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2014

**BACKGROUND*****Retail Return Policy***

The law requires retailers to accept returned goods and issue the individual returning the goods either a cash or credit refund, provided that the return is made in a manner consistent with and within the store's return policy.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

General Law Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 12      Nay 6      (03/12/2013)